

their financial interests. Understanding the unique nature of fisheries management, I fully support and appreciate the participation of fishermen in the Council process. In instances where fishermen, commercial or recreational, are faced with decisions affecting their livelihood and simultaneously, the sustainability of the fishery, the current process puts these individuals in the compromised position of serving two masters. Generally, it is the fish stocks that pay the price.

This legislation also would ensure science-based management of our fisheries. By allowing scientists to recommend appropriate catch limits and the Councils to determine how that catch should be allocated, this bill would remove council members from that untenable position of choosing between the health of the resource and catching enough fish to pay their health insurance. Scientists are better suited for determining sustainable harvest levels, while fishermen, who will remain an integral part of the Council process, should not have to be experts on the vast complexities of ocean science. Their expertise can be used best in managing and allocating the resource, and in developing improved fishing methods and technologies, without also being responsible for the status of the stocks.

Not the timber industry, not the mining industry—as a matter of fact, no other industry I can think of is allowed to regulate itself like the fishing industry does. This system may have made sense when Congress first put it in place more than two decades ago, but it's clear now that a chronic condition of conflict of interest has created a system that is not working for fishermen or for the fishery resources. In fact, 76 stocks are overfished—over 35% of known stocks.

I do not assume that this bill alone will “fix” in its entirety the current system. The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy was clear that changes are urgently needed. This bill addresses just one of many problems plaguing ocean resource management. However, the principles of the bill—to manage fisheries for the public good, to reduce financial conflicts of interest, and to ensure that fisheries management is based on the best available science—are indisputable.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill in a bipartisan fashion. The fish do not vote, so I can not offer them as political capital. But if this bill were enacted, we will be better able to ensure sustainable fisheries on a continuing basis, as is required by law, but all too rarely accomplished under the current system. The long-term benefits would affect the constituents of every district in this country. Fishermen would be able to pass on their trade to their children. Our inland states would enjoy more fresh seafood caught in our domestic waters. And everyone would be able to catch a big one on their summer vacation.

HONORING SERGEANT DAN COHEN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Dan Cohen's retirement from the Newark, California Police Department, and to honor his 30 years of exemplary service in the field of law enforcement.

After completing two tours of duty in Vietnam, Sgt. Cohen's law enforcement career began in April 1972, when he served as a Deputy Sheriff for the Mineral County Sheriff's Department. He worked as a Deputy Sheriff until February 1973. In September 1974, Sgt. Cohen was hired as a Railroad Police Officer for the Southern Pacific Transportation Company where he worked until April 1980.

Sgt. Cohen began his employment with the Newark Police Department in May 1980. He worked in various capacities on the police force, including Patrol Sergeant, Administrative Sergeant, Detective Division Sergeant, Narcotics/Vice Detective, Homicide Detective and as the Hostage Negotiation Team Leader. Dan was also a member of the SWAT Team and a Range Master.

It is my honor to recognize Sergeant Dan Cohen's remarkable career in law enforcement. He has demonstrated his commitment, leadership, and courage and leaves a lasting impression with the community and his colleagues as an outstanding member of the Newark Police Department.

RECOGNIZING LOU COSTANTINO, SR.

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued employee of this House of Representatives, during this time of his recovery. Lou Costantino, Sr. was born in a house on New Jersey Avenue just a couple of blocks from the Capitol. His parents ran a grocery store at that time, the same grocery that Lou would begin running shortly after graduation from high school, along with a carry out, barbershop, and cleaners that his parents opened. He operated these businesses until coming to work for the House of Representatives in 1980.

During these early years, Mr. Costantino met his wife Doris while going to Eastern High School on Capitol Hill. They were married in 1965 at St. Peter's Church and have two children, Eydie and Lou. “There's been a Costantino at St. Peter's for 100 years,” he will often remark.

His devotion to family is indicative of the similar commitment he has for this House of Representatives. He first began his career with the House of Representatives in 1980 with the Office of the Doorkeeper and he currently works for the Sergeant at Arms. He truly loves his job, the people around him, and has the utmost respect for the institution that is the U.S. Capitol. In accordance with his post, and owing to the high regard in which he is held, Mr. Costantino has the honor of escorting the first lady to her seat for the State of the Union Address, a task he has accomplished annually for every first lady since Nancy Reagan.

Born just a few blocks away, and having worked in the building for over twenty years, Lou Costantino, Sr. has spent the majority of his life in close proximity to the Capitol building. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we keep him just as close in our hearts and prayers for his speedy recovery. We wish him well, and look forward to his prompt return to the House Floor.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTCLAIR LIONS CLUB

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Montclair Lions Club No. 36563, located in Prince William County, Virginia.

The International Lions Club is the world's largest service club organization with 1.4 million members in 46,000 clubs in 193 nations. Since 1917, the International Lions Club has been able to touch the lives of countless individuals across the globe. The club's motto, “We Serve” demonstrates the tremendous effort, desire and willingness of volunteers worldwide to better the lives of others through humanitarian efforts. In 1990, Lions established SightFirst, a \$143.5 million global initiative to fight the major causes of preventable and reversible blindness.

Since 1979, the Montclair Lions Club has provided dedicated service to Prince William County, working tirelessly to further the welfare of the community. In its first 25 years the club raised well over a quarter of a million dollars through a wide variety of fundraisers including citrus sales, White Can Day donations, White House Christmas Ornament sales, and food sales. The club has held a golf tournament fundraiser annually with the majority of the proceeds being donated to the Dale City Boys and Girls Club and Action in the Community Through Service.

Montclair Lions Club members donate their time to community service projects including Safety Break, Montclair Property Association events, Habitat for Humanity and many others. These hours of service have enriched innumerable lives in Prince William County and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate the Montclair Lions Club on 25 years of success. They have served the interests of their community well, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the Lions Club's past accomplishments and in wishing the club continued success in the many years to come.

RECOGNIZE AND PRAISE JUAN FONTANEZ

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and praise a hard-working, talented young man who lives in my Fifth Congressional District.

Juan Fontanez of Pasco County, Florida won the Congressional Art Contest for my district last year, and I was proud to display his piece in the tunnel leading to the U.S. Capitol. His winning piece entitled “Proud Mother” was created entirely in pencil, and caught the eye of everyone who walked by for an entire year.

Juan graduated from Land O' Lakes High School last year and will attend Hillsborough